

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

NOV 3 0 2010

The Honorable Barbara A. Mikulski United States Senator 1629 Thames Street, Suite 400 Baltimore, Maryland 21231

Dear Senator Mikulski:

Thank you for your letter of November 10, 2010 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on behalf of your constituent, Mr. regarding the legal costs incurred by Mr. as a result of his efforts to have the contamination on his property cleaned up by Delmarva Power and Light, the responsible party.

The Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act (Brownfields Law) assists states, tribes, communities, and nonprofits in their efforts to assess, clean up, revitalize, and reclaim brownfield sites. This program is an excellent example of the success that is possible when people of all points of view work together to improve the environment and their communities.

The Brownfields program is primarily a grants program, providing direct federal financial assistance for brownfields revitalization, including grants for assessment, cleanup, revolving loans, and job training. There is no provision in the Brownfields Law to reimburse private citizens for legal fees incurred as a result of litigation.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or have your staff contact Mrs. Linda Miller, EPA's Maryland Liaison, at 215-814-2068.

Sincerely,

Shawn M. Garvin

Regional Administrator